



DATE: December 8, 2016

TO: Board Members

FROM:  Todd D'Braunstein, PT Member and John Dierking, Public Member
Legislative Committee

SUBJECT: Discussion and Possible Action on Sunset Question Regarding Merging
BVNPT with Other Occupational Licensing Boards or Continued Existence as
a Separate Board

Background

Historically, in 2004, 2008 and 2012, California Governors¹ suggested to consolidate the bodies regulating Licenses Vocational Nurses (LVNs) and Psychiatric Technicians (PTs) to improve efficiency and as a cost saving initiative. The suggestions were submitted as part of a reorganization plan to the Little Hoover Commission.

Issues

Historical proposed consolidations have included:

- LVNs with the Board of Registered Nurses to create a new board.
- PTs and the Board of Psychology to create Mental Health Board.
-

With this consolidation, potential LVN and PT Board positions are reduced as well as staff positions can be eliminated.

Based on the historically proposed merger,

- A new nursing board would have a membership of nearly 700,000
- Potential reduction of LVN presence on the board.
- Job loss for board staff.
- Misalignment of PTs to the Mental Health Board

¹ http://calbudgetcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/0410agency_reorg.pdf

Process

The consolidation proposal is submitted to the LHC, the LHC will have 60 days to issue a recommendation to the Legislature on the Governor's Reorganization Plan (GRP). The GRP must also be submitted to the Legislature (about 30 days after submission to the LHC) for its review and possible action. The Legislature will have 60 days during which to review the GRP and allow it to take effect by operation of law or take up a negative resolution in either house to reject it.

Pursuant to Government Code, sections 12080-12081.2, the Governor has statutory authority to "examine the organization of all agencies and shall determine what changes therein are necessary to accomplish one or more of the following purposes...(d) To group, consolidate and coordinate agencies and functions thereof as nearly as possible according to major purposes; (e) To reduce the number of agencies by consolidating those having similar functions under a single head and to abolish such agencies or functions thereof as may not be necessary for the efficient operation of the state government; (f) to eliminate overlapping and duplication of effort. The Legislature declares that the public interest requires the carrying out of the purposes set forth in this section, and that such purposes may be accomplished more speedily and effectively under this article than by the enactment of specific legislation..." Therefore, whenever the Governor finds that reorganization is in the public interest, he can submit the proposal to the Senate Rules Committee and the Speaker of the Assembly in the form and language of a bill and the proposal will be referred to a standing Committee of their respective houses for study and a report.

Prior to the end of sixty calendar days, the applicable standing Committee from either house may include the language in a "resolution, by floor motion" and the resolution shall be voted upon without referral to any other committee or any legislative hearings. In addition, Government Code, section 12080.5 specifies that "Except as otherwise provided in this section, a reorganization plan...shall become effective the first day after 60 calendar days of continuous session of the Legislature...or at a later date as may be provided by the plan...unless, prior to the end of the 60-calendar-day period, either house of the Legislature adopts by a majority vote...a resolution." (Information was obtained from the LHC web site at www.lhc.ca.gov)

Committee Recommendation

The Committee meet with stakeholders and constituents and provide the Board an update at future meetings.

REORGANIZING GOVERNMENT: HOW DOES IT HAPPEN?

INTRODUCTION

In August 2004, the California Performance Review (CPR) proposed a sweeping reorganization of state government, as well as a number of policy changes.¹ This proposal has prompted questions about how a reorganization would actually take place. While the Governor has limited authority to initiate government change by Executive Order, major changes require legislation and formal review. This *Budget Brief* seeks to answer key questions relating to agency reorganization.²

WHAT IS AN EXECUTIVE ORDER?

An Executive Order is an edict issued by the Governor to state agencies. For example, Governor Schwarzenegger issued an Executive Order in August 2004 to begin consolidating the Stephen P. Teale Data Center and the Health and Human Services Data Center "to the maximum extent permitted by existing law." This Executive Order also requires that a plan to "reorganize and consolidate the data centers" be submitted to the Governor by November 1, 2004.³

WHAT IS A REORGANIZATION PLAN?

State law outlines a specific process for implementing an agency reorganization. The definition of "reorganization" includes:

- The partial or entire transfer of an agency or its functions to another agency;
- The partial or entire abolition of an agency's functions;
- The partial or entire consolidation of an agency or its functions; and/or
- The establishment of a new agency to perform some or all functions of an existing agency or agencies.⁴

Policy goals of a reorganization typically include better execution of state laws, reducing state expenditures, increasing the efficiency of state operations, consolidating and coordinating state agencies, and reducing duplication and overlap among state programs.⁵

A reorganization plan cannot, however, abolish any agency that was created by the California Constitution.⁶ These include the Legislature and Constitutional officers (Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Controller, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and members of the Board of Equalization); the court system (including the Judicial Council, Commission on Judicial Appointments, and

Commission on Judicial Performance); the State Personnel Board; the California Citizens Compensation Commission; the University of California; the State Board of Education; the Fish and Game Commission; the Public Utilities Commission; the State Bar of California; and the California State Lottery.

WHY A REORGANIZATION PLAN?

It might seem logical that if a Governor wants to reorganize government, he or she should simply issue a series of Executive Orders. However, any major reorganization likely involves changing state law, and changes to statute must be accomplished through legislation. In addition, the formal reorganization process preserves the balance of power among the branches of government and allows for public review.

HOW DOES THE REORGANIZATION PROCESS WORK?

State law specifies an Executive Reorganization Process for any transfer of agency jurisdiction or control. The timeline for a reorganization plan is as follows:

- The Governor first submits the plan (or plans) to the Milton Marks "Little Hoover" Commission on California State Government Organization and Economy, commonly known as the Little Hoover Commission (LHC), for review. The LHC is an independent state agency that reviews agencies and programs for efficiency and effectiveness.
- The Governor may submit the plan to the Legislature 30 days after the LHC receives it.
- Each house of the Legislature refers the plan to the appropriate committee for analysis and possible advisory recommendations to the full Legislature.
- Within 30 days of the Legislature receiving the plan, the LHC must report its findings (which are advisory, not binding) to the Legislature. The LHC conducts public hearings during this period.
- On the 61st day after the Legislature receives the plan, the plan becomes effective - unless either house passes a resolution by majority vote rejecting the plan. The Legislature can only approve or reject the plan; it cannot amend the plan.⁷

CAN THE LEGISLATURE CREATE ITS OWN REORGANIZATION PLAN?

The Legislature can create a reorganization plan through legislation. This legislation, of course, must be signed by the Governor.

HAS A REORGANIZATION EVER OCCURRED BEFORE?

Since 1968, governors have submitted more than two dozen reorganization plans to the Legislature, which approved 18 of them.⁸ Some key reorganization plans approved by the Legislature over the years include:

- Establishing four agencies: Business and Transportation, Resources, Human Relations, and Agriculture and Services (Governor Ronald Reagan, 1968);
- Consolidating the Department of Mental Hygiene, the Department of Public Health, the Department of Health Care Services, and the social service functions of the Department of Social Welfare into a new Department of Health (Governor Ronald Reagan, 1973);

- Consolidating the Division of Labor Law Enforcement and the Division of Industrial Welfare into the Department of Industrial Relations (Governor Jerry Brown, 1975);
- Creating the Youth and Adult Correctional Agency (Governor Jerry Brown, 1979);
- Creating the Environmental Protection Agency (Governor Pete Wilson, 1991); and
- Merging the State Police with the California Highway Patrol (Governor Pete Wilson, 1995).⁹

The most recent agency reorganization was the creation of the Labor and Workforce Development Agency under then Governor Gray Davis in 2002. This reorganization process moved the existing Employment Development Department, Workforce Investment Board, Agricultural Labor Relations Board, and Department of Industrial Relations to the new agency. The LHC held one public hearing on the proposal before submitting its recommendations to the Legislature. The Legislature allowed the plan to go into effect and in August 2002 approved legislation addressing implementation of the plan (SB 1236, Alarcon, Chapter 859 of 2002).¹⁰

Erin Riches prepared this Budget Brief. The California Budget Project (CBP) was founded in 1994 to provide Californians with a source of timely, objective, and accessible expertise on state fiscal and economic policy issues. The CBP engages in independent fiscal and policy analysis and public education with the goal of improving public policies affecting the economic and social well-being of low- and middle-income Californians. General operating support for the California Budget Project is provided by foundation grants, individual donations, and subscriptions. Please visit the CBP's web site at www.cbp.org.

ENDNOTES

¹ The California Performance Review, *A Government for the People for a Change: Prescription for Change, A Report of the California Performance Review* (August 2004).

² "Agency reorganization" is used as a general term throughout this Brief to refer to a reorganization of agencies, departments, boards, or other state entities. For details on the CPR report, please see California Budget Project, *Soup to Nuts: An Analysis of Selected Recommendations of the California Performance Review* (August 6, 2004).

³ Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Executive Order S-13-04 (August 24, 2004). Consolidation of the two data centers was one of the recommendations of the California Performance Review.

⁴ Government Code Section 12080(b).

⁵ Government Code Section 12080.1.

⁶ Government Code section 12080.4(e).

⁷ Government Code sections 8523, 12080.2, and Little Hoover Commission, *Governor's Reorganization Plan Process*, downloaded from <http://www.lhc.ca.gov/lhcdir/grp1/grp1.html> on September 24, 2004.

⁸ Legislative Analyst's Office, *An Initial Assessment of the California Performance Review* (August 27, 2004), p. 13.

⁹ Legislative Analyst's Office, *An Initial Assessment of the California Performance Review* (August 27, 2004), pp. 14 and 19.

¹⁰ For more information, see California Budget Project, *Governor Davis' Proposed Labor Agency Reorganization Plan* (April 2002).



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

John Vertido, L.V.N. Educator Member, President
Todd D'Braunstein, P.T. Member, Vice President
Kevin Baucom, P.T. Member
Martin Mariscal, Public Member
Kenneth Merchant, Public Member
Angelique Stephens, Public Member

BOARD MEMBERS

ABSENT:

Josefina Canchola, Public Member

STAFF PRESENT:

Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N., Executive Officer
Ann Shuman, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant
Angelina Martin, Enforcement Division Chief
Sophia Cornejo, Administrative Analyst
Jason Reinhardt, Administrative Secretary
Laura Freedman Eidson, Legal Counsel, Department of
Consumer Affairs

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by John Vertido, at 9:08 a.m., February 20, 2009, at the Four Points by Sheraton San Diego, Pavilion, 8110 Aero Drive, San Diego, CA 92123.

Mr. Vertido announced that on February 19, 2009, the Interim Board Members unanimously reappointed Teresa Bello-Jones as the Executive Officer of the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians (Board). Mr. Vertido, Interim Board Member, administered the Executive Officer's (EO) Oath of Office.

2. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

The Interim Board Members introduced themselves. Ms. Bello-Jones, EO, introduced the staff present.

3. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

The EO, called for the election of the Board President.

M – Kenneth Merchant; S – Angelique Stephens; and carried unanimously to elect John Vertido as Board President.

Mr. Vertido called for the election of the Board Vice-President.

M – Martin Mariscal; S – Angelique Stephens; and carried unanimously to elect Todd D'Braunstein as Board Vice-President.

Mr. Vertido thanked the Board for electing him as President.

Todd D'Braunstein thanked the Board for electing him as Vice-President.

4. INTRODUCTION OF ACCREDITED SCHOOLS REPRESENTED AT MEETING

American College of Nursing, Concord
Annenburg School of Nursing, Reseda
California Nurses Education Institute,
Cathedral City
Casa Loma College, Van Nuys
Coast Health Career College,
Anaheim
College of Nursing & Technology,
Reseda
Concorde Career, Garden Grove
Concorde Career, San Bernardino
Concorde Career, San Diego
Concorde Career, West Los Angeles
Four D College, Colton
Four D College, Victorville

Healthcare College of California, Stockton
Healthcare Education Advancement Center,
Montrose
Kaplan College, North City (Vista)
Kaplan College, North Hollywood
Kaplan College, Sacramento
Kaplan College, San Diego
Kaplan College, Stockton
Mt. San Jacinto College, Menifee
North West College, West Covina
Pacific College, Costa Mesa
St. Francis Career College, Lynwood
Westech College School of Technology,
Ontario

5. BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mr. Vertido, Board President, read a special notice addressing the Board's legal mandate and procedure to have an issue placed on the Board Meeting agenda. He announced that public comment is welcome on any open agenda item prior to the Board's discussion. However, the Board may limit the length of time allowed for comment.

The Board President announced that a list of disciplinary actions taken against licensees and applicants is published and distributed to all interested parties on June 30th and December 31st each year. Interested parties were advised to contact Board staff or submit a request in writing to the Board to obtain a copy of this list.

6. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Education Program Update

The EO reported that the Board currently has 212 accredited and approved Vocational Nursing (VN) Programs and 16 accredited and approved Psychiatric Technician (PT) programs.

Due to the present shortage of consultant staff and the imposition of two furlough days per month that began February 6, 2009, for most state employees (including Board staff), new program proposals may take twelve (12) months or longer for review, depending on the quality and completeness of the proposal.

Examination Update

The average annual pass rate for California first-time VN candidates was 73%, while the overall pass rate for VN candidates was 55%. The average annual pass rate for first-time PT candidates was 69%, while the overall pass rate for PT candidates was 51%.

Liaison Activities

- On January 20, 2009, the EO was keynote speaker at the SCI Career College Vocational Nursing Graduation and Pinning Ceremony.
- On January 20-22, 2009, Cheryl Anderson, Nursing Education Consultant, attended the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) Examination Committee Meeting in Chicago, IL.
- On January 26-27, 2009, the EO attended the NCSBN Continued Competence Committee Meeting in Chicago, IL.

Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Update

- The Governor released the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Budget on January 9, 2009, which is posted on the Department of Finance website.

DCA has 24 budget change proposals (BCPs) in the Governor's Budget, including the proposal for the additional costs of implementing retroactive fingerprinting requirements for existing licensees of the healing arts boards to conduct criminal background checks.

- The Governor's Executive Order S-16-08 ordered a mandatory two-day furlough each month for applicable state employees. Accordingly, beginning February 6, 2009, offices are closed the first and third Fridays of each month through June 2010.

Fingerprinting and Fees Regulations

On January 9, 2009, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved emergency regulations to implement retroactive fingerprinting and a fee increase to obtain the necessary staff and funding for this action.

Customer Service Surveys

The EO announced that the Board is distributing "Customer Service Surveys" to solicit feedback regarding how it is accomplishing its mission and goals. The information is used to develop the Board's Strategic Plan and included in the Board's Sunset Review Reports.

7. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEM

A. Adoption of November 21, 2008, Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

M – Kenneth Merchant; and S – Martin Mariscal; and carried unanimously to adopt the Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.

8. REPORT OF DECISIONS REGARDING SCHOOL PROGRAM APPROVALS AND AUTHORIZATIONS

The EO reported on decisions for VN and PT Programs.

9. PRESENTATION OF 2008 ANNUAL REPORT

The EO presented the 2008 Annual Report.

10. PRESENTATION OF 2009 BOARD GOALS

The EO presented the 2009 Board Goals.

Recommendation:

The Board adopt the 2009 Board Goals.

M – Todd D'Braunstein; and S – Kevin Baucom; and carried unanimously to adopt the 2009 Board Goals.

11. REGULATORY REPORT

11.A. REPORT ON EMERGENCY REGULATIONS REGARDING RETROACTIVE FINGERPRINTING, CRIMINAL HISTORY INQUIRIES, AND FEE INCREASE

Sophia Cornejo, Administrative Analyst, reported that on November 4, 2008, Carrie Lopez, Director of the DCA, directed all boards/bureaus to implement retroactive fingerprinting of its licensees. Accordingly, emergency regulations were filed on December 30, 2008, to implement retroactive fingerprinting and a fee increase to obtain the staff and funding needed for this action. On January 9, 2009, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the emergency regulations.

11.B. CONFORMING REGULATIONS REGARDING RETROACTIVE FINGERPRINTING, RESPONSE TO BOARD INQUIRIES, AND FEE INCREASE

Sophia Cornejo, Administrative Analyst, reported that, pursuant to the OAL's emergency regulation procedures, the Board is required to prepare a certificate of compliance to make the emergency fingerprinting regulations permanent. Therefore, the Board must file the regulations through the regular rulemaking process, including a 45-day notice and comment period.

Ms. Cornejo also stated that the language in the emergency regulations was modified to expand on the scope of the Board inquiries and make clarifying changes to the fingerprint and disclosure requirements.

Recommendation:

Direct staff to proceed with the rulemaking process to propose permanent regulations regarding responding to board inquiries, fingerprinting and disclosing requirements and implementing fee changes.

Public Comment:

Vickie Bermudez, representing the California Nurses Association (CNA), indicated that it was CNA association sent the comments to the BRN. She stated that CNA was also requesting the term "vehicle" and the "\$300" threshold be removed from the proposed language.

Discussion:

Mr. Mariscal expressed his concern for over-reporting, which will then cause more workload for Board staff. He was also concerned that it would be confusing for LVNs or PTs about what to report.

Angelina Martin stated that the Enforcement Division staff reviews the underlying facts because they often find acts that warrant discipline that will not be reflected by the conviction itself. While there might be slight increase in the workload, the fact that the

Board is told about an infraction doesn't necessarily mean that staff will spend a lot of time or even open an investigation on it.

Ms. Martin further stated that the \$300 threshold had been recommended by DCA to all agencies.

Ms. Freedman Eidson stated her understanding that the language was drafted and suggested by DCA to be as inclusive in reporting as possible because there is no requirement that staff take discipline on information reported.

Mr. Mariscal motioned to remove "traffic" and "\$300.00" from Sections 2517.5 (VN Regulations) and 2575.5 (PT Regulations) of the proposed language.

M – Martin Mariscal; and S – Angelique Stephens; and failed 3-3 to adopt the language as modified by Martin Mariscal.

Discussion:

The Board had additional discussion about the proposal and the effect of the changes. The Board President asked for a motion to re-consider the original recommendation.

Kenneth Merchant moved to re-examine Martin Mariscal's previous motion. The motion to reconsider carried unanimously.

M – Kenneth Merchant; and S – Martin Mariscal; and passed unanimously to remove "traffic" and "\$300.00 from Sections 2517.5 (VN Regulations) and 2575.5 (PT Regulations) in the proposed language.

12. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

12.A. GOVERNOR'S PROPOSAL TO CONSOLIDATE BOARDS

The EO presented the report regarding the governor's proposal to consolidate the VN program with the Board of Registered Nursing (BRN) to create the new Board of Registered and Vocational Nurses and to consolidate the PT program with the Board of Behavioral Sciences and the Board of Psychology to create the new Board of Mental Health.

Recommendation:

The Board considers a position regarding the governor's proposal to consolidate the Boards.

Public Comment:

Vicki Bermudez, Regulatory Policy Specialist for the California Nurses Association, stated that the Board should oppose the governor's proposal to consolidate the Board. Ms. Bermudez stated that Trailer Bill language is unacceptable and that this proposal has no place as part of a budget package. It should be a part of the sunset review

process rather than a bill that goes through the Little Hoover Commission (LHC), especially because the LHC does not have the authority to modify the proposal.

Laura Smith-McKenna, Director, American College of Nursing, Concord, stated that she is concerned this will cause the eventual disappearance of PTs. She is also concerned that this will cause several scope of practice issues.

Katherine Herd, former director of a proposed program, stated that the VN role will be diminished if the Boards are merged. In her opinion, VNs could eventually disappear. She considers it the responsibility of the Board to take a strong position regarding this matter.

Discussion:

Kevin Baucom stated that he is against this proposal. As a licensed PT, he feels that the educational gap between PTs, Marriage and Family Therapists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Educational Psychologists, Psychologists and Registered Psychological Assistants is too great.

The Board President stated that he is concerned that the VN and PT licenses will be diminished. The Boards would be weaker because the number of licensees represented could be overwhelming. This is not in the best interest of the public.

Angelique Stephens stated that it is the responsibility of the Board Members to ensure that the various license types are not diminished by merging the Boards. She stated that the Boards can still protect the public as well as the licensees if the Boards are merged.

Kenneth Merchant stated that the PT curriculum is too different from the curriculum of the other mental health professions. The PTs belong with a nursing board.

Mr. Mariscal stated that he would like to have the Board President write a letter to the governor stating the Board's concerns.

M – Todd D'Braunstein; and S – Kevin Baucom; and carried 4-1 to take a position against the consolidation of the Boards. Martin Mariscal abstained from voting and Angelique Stephens voted no.

12.B. STATUTORY PROPOSAL TO AMEND BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS CODE, SECTIONS 2895 (VN STATUTES) AND 4548 (PT STATUTES) RELATIVE TO STATUTORY FEE RANGES

Ms. Martin, Enforcement Division Chief, reported that the Board is seeking an author to amend the Business and Professions Code, Sections 2895 and 4548, in order to increase the statutory maximum fee ranges for VNs and PTs.

Recommendation:

The Board approve the proposed statutory amendments relative to Business and Professions Code, Sections 2895 and 4548, and direct staff to proceed with the legislative process.

M – Kenneth Merchant; and S – Angelique Stephens; and carried unanimously to adopt the recommendation.

12.C. LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS REGARDING INTERIM PERMITS AND PERMISSIVE SITE VISITS

Angelina Martin, Enforcement Division Chief, reported that the Board is working with the DCA to obtain an author to amend the Business and Professions Code Sections 2872.2 and 2883 (VN Statutes), and 4510.1 and 4532 (PT Statutes) relative to Interim Permits and Permissive Site Visits.

Recommendation:

The Board affirm its continued support for the legislative proposals regarding Interim Permits and Permissive Site Visits and direct staff to continue with the legislative process.

M – Kenneth Merchant; and S – Todd D'Braunstein; and carried unanimously to adopt the recommendation.

12.D. ASSEMBLY BILL 48

Ann Shuman, Supervising Nursing Education Consultant (SNEC), reported on the status of Assembly Bill 48.

13.A. ANTELOPE VALLEY CAREER ACADEMY, INC. VOCATIONAL NURSING PROGRAM – INFORMATIONAL ITEM REGARDING PROVISIONAL ACCREDITATION NONCOMPLIANCE

Ms. Shuman presented a status report regarding Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc. VN Program's provisional accreditation non-compliance.

Ms. Shuman stated that on February 1, 2008, the Board placed the Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc. VN Program on provisional accreditation. The Board became aware of the program's admission of a full-time class on April 30, 2008. This class was admitted without prior Board approval. The program was placed on the September 2009 Board Meeting Agenda for reconsideration of the program's accreditation status.

Representative of the School: None present.

Discussion:

Mr. Mariscal asked Ms. Shuman why the Board will be reconsidering the accreditation status of this program in September 2009 rather than May 2009. Ms. Shuman stated that it's because the Board will be presented with two, perhaps three more quarters of licensure examination data. Mr. Mariscal stated that the program has had eight successive quarters of below requirements; and they added a full-time class without Board approval. Ms. Shuman stated that the Board determines the length of time a program is on provisional accreditation and this was the period established for this program. Mr. Mariscal stated that the adding of a class without Board approval is a blatant violation and not just a continuation of non-sufficient pass rates. He further stated that unless the Board is locked into the obligation of continuing until September 2009, he would like to reconsider the accreditation status sooner. Ms. Shuman deferred to Legal Counsel for her opinion. Ms. Freedman Eidson stated that the Board can consider the provisional accreditation status sooner than September 2009; however, the Board has a requirement to put the program on notice of what it is that they have not complied with and give the program the opportunity to correct the deficiency.

M – Martin Mariscal; and S – Angelique Stephens; and carried unanimously to place the Antelope Valley Career Academy, Inc. VN Program on the May 2009 Board Meeting Agenda for consideration of accreditation status.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

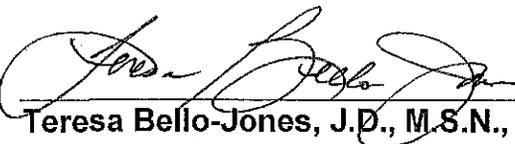
No public comment received.

15. ADJOURNMENT

M – Angelique Stephens; and S – Kevin Baucom; and carried unanimously to adjourn the Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

Prepared by:



Teresa Bello-Jones, J.D., M.S.N., R.N.
Executive Officer

Date: 10/29/09

Approved by:



John P. Vertido, L.V.N.
President

Date: 29Oct09